

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP [1700]**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application**

**Inventor(s):** DeOrnellas, et al.

**SC/Serial No.:** 09/692,007

**Confirm. No.:** Unknown

**Filed:** October 19, 2000

**Title:** METHOD FOR USING A HARD MASK FOR  
CRITICAL DIMENSION GROWTH  
CONTAINMENT

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**Art Unit:** 1765

**Examiner:** L. Umez-Eronini

**Customer No. 23910**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Box AF, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on November 9, 2001.

  
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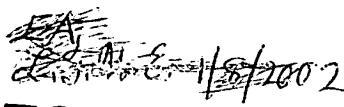
Signature Date: November 9, 2001

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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

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Sir:

  
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**TC 1700**

This RESPONSE is in reply to the Office Action mailed August 13, 2001. No fee is due for the addition of any new claims.

**Amendments**

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

✓  
Please cancel claims 1-9, amend claims 12, 13, 22, 25, 26, 28-30, 34, 36-40, and add new claims 42-49, all as shown below. All pending claims are reproduced below, including those that remain unchanged. Marked up copies of the amended claims illustrating the changes are shown in the Appendix to this Response.